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General Assembly

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Agenda item 94 (*f*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/58/484/Add.6)*]

58/243. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001 and 57/257 of 20 December 2002 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Recalling further the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[3] and the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,[4]

Noting that one hundred and eighty-eight States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative impacts of climate change,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[4] FCCC/CP/2002/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.8.

Noting the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

Noting also that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[5] has attracted one hundred and nineteen ratifications, including from parties mentioned in annex I to the Convention, who account for 44.2 per cent of emissions,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6] in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,[7]

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[8]

1. *Calls upon* States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[1]

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[5] strongly urge States that have not already done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Notes with interest* the preparations undertaken for the implementation of the flexible mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol;

4. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[9] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[10] and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005;

6. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

7. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the

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[5] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[6] See resolution 55/2.

[7] Ibid., para. 23.

[8] A/58/308.

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[10] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

79th plenary meeting
23 December 2003